

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
and

U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 12-26-56

Week Ending 12-22-56

WEATHER Temperatures averaged near normal over the eastern portion of the State to about 5° above in the west. The first day of the week was moderately cold, but temperatures were generally mild thereafter. Light snow fell over the Panhandle and the southwestern portion of the State Friday and Saturday, but there was no precipitation of consequence elsewhere. There was more than the usual amount of sunshine, and wind movement was low.

CROPS Condition of winter wheat changed very little during the past week. The higher temperatures have brought the crop out of the dormant stage in some areas and it is starting to grow. There is a decided need for precipitation as top soil is very dry and will be subject to severe wind erosion if high winds occur. The crop as a whole has a rather poor root system and only a limited acreage has provided pasture feed for livestock.

Some potatoes were being sorted and moved from farms to market in the western part of the state. However, volume movement is not expected to start until after the first of the year.

There is very little frost in the ground in most areas of the state and many farmers are utilizing their irrigation facilities for watering land that will be seeded to crops next year. Well drilling and leveling of land continues at a rather rapid pace and unless severe winter conditions occur, drilling of irrigation wells is expected to continue throughout the winter months.

Farmers are now starting to search for seed to be used in planting spring crops. Good oats seed seems to be rather scarce. Fall seeded alfalfa and other grass seeds have made slow progress because of dry conditions that have prevailed.

LIVESTOCK Livestock continue in good condition as most ranges are open and cattle are securing most of their feed from ranges, pastures and corn stalks. The open weather is a material help to ranchers and farmers in helping conserve their already meager hay and forage supplies. The price of hay is high and the demand is strong from out-state, particularly in the drouth areas to the south of Nebraska. Liquidation of cattle continues although at a slower rate. Lambing has started in many areas and weather conditions have been favorable for saving the new lambs. The demand for milk cows continues and prices remain at a rather high level. Farmers are saving an unusually large number of pigs per litter with the help of favorable weather conditions.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 24, 1956

<u>Eastern Division</u>	
Grand Island	0
Lincoln	0
Norfolk	0
Omaha	0
Sioux City	.01

<u>Central Division</u>	
Burwell	0
North Platte	.01
Valentine	0

<u>Western Division</u>	
Chadron	.08
Imperial	.05
Scottsbluff	.10
Sidney	.10

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HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST).

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